

SECRET

Executive Registry
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17 November 1977

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

[Redacted]

Special Assistant, DCI

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FROM

: [Redacted]

Deputy Director, Regional & Political Analysis

SUBJECT

: Presidential Briefings

1. I have no major problems with the memoranda you distributed at this morning's meeting and especially like your definition of criteria and of the emphasis to take in the briefings. I think it is a good orderly way to proceed. The idea of involving twenty different entities in the process of selecting and drafting is a good one, and should broaden the coverage. There might be times, however, when one component would have more than one worthwhile topic to suggest while another office might not have even one. Some allowance should be made for this. Also, as mentioned at the meeting there may be times when everything we have to say can be put into the briefing and an additional ten to twenty page paper would therefore not be necessary. I am assuming that this additional paper is for the DCI only as it would be too much of a homework burden to place on the busy President.

2. It would be useful for each component to have a list of topics previously prepared by that component that were actually used by the DCI in his briefing of the President. For example, if memory serves, a Polish briefing was delivered last August and the DCI might well want to refer to that briefing in any new one he gives on Poland. In other cases we might wish to avoid redundancy.

3. Of the Presidential briefings in various states of preparation that involve ORPA I would scrub French policy in Africa. Of those topics prepared but not yet worked on I would forget about [Redacted] As mentioned at the meeting, Poland, if it is done, should be given before Christmas. I personally think it lends itself better to PDB annex treatment.

[Redacted]

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